

Aquaculture Census, 1998-1999

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Pennsylvania producers of aquaculture products reported sales totaling \$7.6 million in the first census of aquaculture conducted under the direction of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS).

Sales of food fish comprised 79% of the total sales with the remainder of the sales made up of sport and game fish, baitfish, crustaceans, mollusks, ornamental fish, and other animal aquaculture (frogs).

In addition to those fish sold, an estimated 85.7 million fish were distributed for conservation and recreational purposes throughout the state, primarily by state hatcheries and private fishing clubs. Walleye fry made up the greatest number of fish stocked, while trout made up the greatest volume by weight of fish stocked.

The predominant method of aquaculture production utilized flow-through raceways, followed closely by the use of ponds. Groundwater was the main source of water used in aquaculture production with on-farm surface water, the next most utilized source.

Pennsylvania: Value of Aquaculture Products Sold by Type, 1998

Class	Farms	Sales
		(000) Dollars
<i>Food Fish - Total</i>	43	6,039
Trout	38	5,428
Catfish	5	44
Other Food Fish	6	567
<i>Sport of Game Fish - Total</i>	5	67
Largemouth Bass	4	30
Other Game Fish	3	37
Baitfish	8	1
Crustaceans	2	1
Mollusks	1	1
Other Animal Aquaculture	5	1
Ornamental Fish	6	1
Total of all Classes	51	7,632

¹ Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual farms.

Pennsylvania: Distributed for Restoration or Conservation Purposes

Class	Farms	Number	Pounds
		(000)	(000)
Catfish	1	1	1
Salmon	1	1	1
Bass	4	224	3
Trout	14	9,414	2,878
Walleye	6	74,715	81
Other Fish	5	1,382	15

¹ Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual farms.

The 1998 Aquaculture Census was conducted to expand the aquaculture data collected from the 1997 Census of Agriculture and provided information relating to on-farm aquaculture practices, size of operation based on water area, production, sales, method of production, sources of water, and aquaculture distributed for restoration or conservation purposes. These statistics may be used by legislative bodies

Pennsylvania: Methods Used for Aquaculture Production

Total Farms	Ponds	Flow-through Raceways	Cages	Recirculating Tanks
51	32	36	3	6

Pennsylvania: Sources of Water Used for Aquaculture Production

Total Farms	Groundwater	On-Farm Surface Water	Off-farm Water
51	31	19	1

in developing, evaluating, and changing farm programs; planning rural development, land use management, water resource management, and aquaculture research. Private industry may also use the census statistics to provide a more effective production and distribution system for the aquaculture community.